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present

THE MIKADO

or "The Town of Titipu"

Words by William Schwenk Gilbert
Music by Sir Arthur Sullivan

December 2-11, 1982

If a man's masterpiece is the work which appeals to the largest number of people...then it must be said that The Mikado was Sullivan's chef d'oevre

Thomas F. Dunhill 1928

COMING EVENTS

The Directors' Workshop production, "Four on a Garden," will play at the theatre January 26, 27, 28, 29, 1983. Each of the four one-act plays takes place in the same New York apartment, and each is directed by a different director - Lori Dorrell, Ware Martin, Jody Osborne, and Larry Stoy. Fran Dodd is coordinator of the Workshop. All membership tickets are valid.

Make your reservations now for "Casino Night" at the theatre New Year's Eve. Games, Prizes, entertainment, and refreshments will be provided for a delightful way to usher in the New Year.

Auditions for"Four on a Garden" will be held December 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the theatre. Eleven men and women are needed.

Young people are urged to try-out for "Hansel and Gretel" to be directed by Kelly Keetch. Auditions will be held December 12 at 3:00 p.m. in the theatre.

The Great American Costume and Rummage Sale will be held at the theatre Saturday, January 9th, at 9:00 a.m. In addition to helping dispose of surplus costumes from our stock, the Junior Welfare League is assisting in collecting rummage for the sale. If you have items to contribute, please call the theatre and we will arrange for their pick-up.

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PRODUCTION NOTES

Ricky Butler (Nanki-Poo) - Ricky is a native of Mississippi, where he graduated from high school in 1976. He studied music two years at East Mississippi Junior College and is now shop manager at Waters Grenhouse and Florist. Sumter audiences will remember him for his performances in, among others, *Babes in Toyland* and *Cabaret*.

Frank Bush (Pish-Tush) - Born in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, Frank is a sergeant at Shaw, where he has been stationed for five years. Frank last appeared at S.L.T. as Alaine in *The Amorous Flea,* and at Shaw as Billis in *South Pacific.*

Paul Booth (Pooh-Bah) - *The Mikado* is Paul's second show. A 1968 graduate of Clemson University, he is an employee of the U.S.D.A. He last played the Kralahome at S.L.T. in *The King and I.*

Gerald Carter (Ko-Ko) - Gerald last appeared in Sumter as the King in *The King and I,* and at Shaw as Lieutenant Cable in *South Pacific.* An employee of Fabrique Nationale, he has acted extensively on the west coast. His other credits include the title role in *Hamlet,* King Arthur in *Camelot,* and the Chief Justice in *First Monday.*

Cathy Bauer Baker (Yum-Yum) - This is Cathy's first community theatre performance in Sumter, but she is no newcomer to the stage. 1976 district winner of the Metropolitan Opera auditions, she last understudied the role of Madame Butterfly at U.S.C. - Columbia. She holds a Master of Music degree from that same university.

Gail Walsh (Pitti-Sing) - Gail, besides being wife of David and mother of Brendan and Katie, still finds time to be active at S.L.T., having appeared here last as Lady Thiang in *The King and I.* She has a B.A. in drama and M.A. in Speech Therapy from the University of Virginia.

Valerie Edens (Peep-Bo) - Born in Waco, Texas, Valerie is an eighteen-year-old graduate of Saint Jude's High School. She is currently attending U.S.C. - Sumter and last performed the role of Dinah Murphy in *South Pacific.*

Mary Kunsman (Katisha) - Mary, the mother of eight children, teaches piano and is choir director at Bible Fellowship Church in Sumter. Originally from Columbia, she has participated in a number of shows at S.L.T., including *Gigi* and *The King and I.*

Tim Brosnan (Mikado) - Tim is a recent graduate of U.S.C. - Columbia and is employed by Pioneer Ltd. in Lake City. He last played Bottom in S.L.T.'s *A Midsummer Night's Dream.*

It was extremely amusing and interesting to witness the stage rehearsals, to note the gradual conversion of the English to the Japanese.

Francois Cellier, 1914

If You Want To Know Who We Are

CAST

Nanki-Poo (disguised as a wandering minstrel and in love with Yum-Yum) ..... Ricky Butler
Pish-Tush (a noble lord) ..... Frank Bush
Pooh-Bah (Lord High Everything Else) ..... Paul Booth
Ko-Ko (Lord High Executioner) ..... Gerald Carter
Yum-Yum (a ward of Ko-Ko) ..... Cathy Bauer Baker
Pitti-Sing (another ward of Ko-Ko) ..... Gail Walsh
Peep-Bo (yet another ward of Ko-Ko) ..... Valerie Edens
Katisha (an elderly lady, in love with Nanki-Poo) ..... Mary Kunsman
The Mikado of Japan ..... Tim Brosnan

Gentlemen of Japan

David Avin	Albert Little	George Spelvin
Hunter Boyle	John Hanley	Kevin Taylor

Gentle women of Japan

Betty Amick	Anne Edens	Cheryl Wilcox
Jackie Bush	Sandra Edens	Linda Day
Kristin Hill	Natalie DuCom	Sue King

We are all being Japanned...

Daily Telegraph, 1885

WHITFIELD INSURANCE AGENCY

Nanki-Poo, son of the Mikado, has fled the imperial court to avoid marrying Katisha, the unappealing "daughter-in-law elect." Disguised as a wandering minstrel, Nanki-Poo arrives at Titipu , there to woo Yum-Yum. Yum-Yum however, is betrothed to her guardian, Ko-Ko. Ko-Ko has only recently been spared execution and made Lord High Executioner by the town in its effort to circumvent the Mikado's edict that flirting be punishable by death. The town reasoned that the most agreeable candidate for the office of Lord High Executioner should be the man "whose head was next ... to be mown off." Thus, although it is Ko-Ko's duty as ranking headsman to perform executions, he has not done so - mainly because he is himself at the top of the list of those to be executed.

Meanwhile, the Mikado has grown impatient with Titipu for having executed no one recently, and Ko-Ko is desperate. Then, Nanki-Poo, having decided that life without Yum-Yum is not worth living, prepares to commit suicide. Ko-Ko sees his way out: Nanki-Poo is to be allowed to marry Yum-Yum, live with her for one month, and then be executed, thereby allowing Ko-Ko both to marry Yum-Yum after all and to appease the Mikado.

We leave you here, near the end of the first act. The play proceeds along somewhat unbelievable lines, but then, who's ever heard of Titipu anyway?

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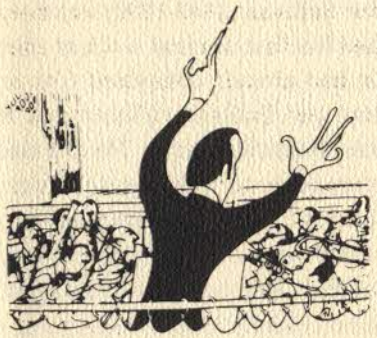

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and
John Baker for the loan of musical instruments

ABOUT THE PLAY

W.S. Gilbert (1836-1911) had been called to the bar, when, in 1865, he began to publish poetry in *Punch* and *Fun*, using the pseudonym "Bab." His hobby became for him a life's work and eclipsed what might have been a legal career.

Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900) was born the son of an Irish band master and published his first musical work at thirteen. When, in 1871, he met Gilbert, Sullivan had already composed *Cox* and *Box* (1867), a brief light opera.

Gilbert and Sullivan collaborated from 1871 until 1896 to produce 14 operettas, beginning with *Thespis* and ending with *The Grand Duke*. In 1875, they took on a business partner, Richard D'Oyly Carte, who would later build the Savoy Theatre - hence, the name "Savoyards."

The three were extremely successful, said by *Punch* to be "masters of all they Savoy." But they were also regularly plagued with difficulty. Gilbert complained that Sullivan's music competed unfairly with the lyrics. Sullivan felt that Gilbert's librettos were beneath the dignity of their accompaniment. And the "pirates," unscrupulous theatre managers, were producing the Savoy operas without permission. Copyright laws being what they were at the time, there was little that Gilbert and Sullivan could do to protect themselves.

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Caryl Brahms

Continued from previous page...

A 15 minute intermission will follow Act one

ACT II

Braid the Raven Hair ..... Pitti-Sing and Girls
The Sun, Whose Rays Are All Ablaze ..... Yum-Yum
Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day ..... Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Nanki-Poo, and Pish-Tush
Here's a How-de-do! ..... Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo, and Ko-Ko
Mi-ya Sa-ma ..... Mikado, Katisha, Girls and Men
A More Humane Mikado ..... Mikado, Girls, and Men
The Criminal Cried as He Dropped Him Down ..... Ko-Ko, Pitti-Sing, Pooh-Bah, Girls, and Men
See How the Fates Their Gifts Allot ..... Mikado, Pitti-Sing, Pooh-Bah, Ko-Ko, and Katisha
The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring ..... Nanki-Poo, Ko-Ko, Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, and Pooh-Bah
Alone, and Yet Alive! ..... Katisha
Willow, Tit-Willow ..... Ko-Ko
There Is Beauty in the Bellow of the Blast ..... Katisha and Ko-Ko
For He's Gone and Married Yum-Yum ..... Ensemble

From the moment the curtain rose...to its final fall, it was one long succession of uproarious laughter...and overwhelming applause...

Rutland Barrington

ORCHESTRA

Flute ..... Julie Stribling
Clarinets ..... Joni Mabry
Bob Lee
Baritone Saxophone ..... Bill Hyde
Trumpets ..... Steve DeMuth
Dick Stuckey
Emmett Anglin
Marty Kunsman
Trombone ..... Lonnie Davis
French Horn ..... Susan Price
Laura Salter
Bass ..... Forrest Ray
Percussion ..... Robbie Bridge
Cello ..... John Egbert
Piano ..... Jeff Maddox
Conductor ..... Pat Veltre

MUSICAL NUMBERS

With Joyous Shout and Ringing Cheer

ACT I

OVERTURE
If You Want to Know Who We Are ..... Men
A Wand'ring Minstrel I ..... Nanki-Poo and Men
Our Great Mikado, Virtuous Man ..... Pish-Tush and Men
Young Man, Despair ..... Poo-Bah, Nanki-Poo, and Pish-Tush
And Have I Journeyed for a Month ..... Nanki-Poo and Pooh-Bah
Behold the Lord High Executioner ..... Ko-Ko and Men
As Some Day It May Happen ..... Ko-Ko and Men
Comes a Train of Little Ladies ..... Girls
Three Little Maids From School Are We ..... Yum-Yum, Peep-bo, Pitti-Sing, and Girls
So Please You, Sir, We Much Regret ..... Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing, Pooh-Bah, and Girls
Were You Not to Ko-Ko Plighted ..... Yum-Yum, and Nanki-Poo
I Am So Proud ..... Pooh-Bah, Ko Ko, and Pish-Tush
With Aspect Stern and Gloomy Stride ..... Ensemble

Continued from previous page...

In July of 1884, Richard D'Oyly Carte was engaged in a losing game of shuttle diplomacy, trying to reunite the two men on whose work he'd built a small empire. The partnership seemed to be at an end when, legend has it, a Japanese sword fell from the wall while Gilbert was sitting in his study. This event seemingly lifted the curse that had threatened to close the Savoy. *The Mikado* resulted.

The time for a Japanese opera was certainly ripe. London was deep into its Nipponesque era. All the fashionable folk were seen at Knightsbridge where, authentic down to the smallest detail, an entire Japanese village had been placed for the popular amusement.

The Mikado premiered at the Savoy on March 14, 1885. It was an instant success at home and enjoyed equal popularity abroad. After playing for 672 performances on its first run, the show was revived before the turn of the century, and has since been filmed twice. It is widely considered to be their finest and most popular work.

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Era, 1885

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PRODUCTION

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Musical Director ..... Pat Veltre
Producer ..... Anne Edens
Stage Manager ..... Lori Dorrell
Set designer ..... Randy Abbott
Costume Designer ..... Lori Dorell
Box Office Chairman ..... Josie Farris
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Assistant Producer ..... Lori Dorrell
Set Construction .. Tim Brosnan, Albert Little, Karl Osborne, Ken Poston, Ken Reeves, John Rhame, Eric Sherman
Costume Construction ..... David Avin, Linda Day, Vivian Dion, Natalie DuCom, Anne Edens, Albert Little, Dean Long, Beth Nettles, Bob Wallick, Gail Walsh
Set Painting ..... Gretchen Degenhardt
Master Electrician ..... Eric Sherman
Follow-spot Operator ..... Ken Reeves
Graphics and Program Design ..... Tim Brosnan
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...in London...even the street boy was captivated with the title, which he quickly transmogrified into "The Mickey Doo."

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sumter Little Theatre and Shaw Company are both pleased and proud to present "The Mikado." While there has been free interchange of cast, crew, and material between the two theatres for years, this is the first time the two groups have worked jointly to present a show for Sumter - area audiences.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the Sumter Junior Welfare League in "The Mikado" and other theatre projects.

Thanks also to Charles Lustig for piano tuning; to Jimmy Troop for production assistance, and to Sumter Laundry and Dry Cleaners, Hair Styles By Liz, and U.S. Textiles for their support and help.

Sumter Little Theatre is the recipient of program support from the South Carolina Arts Commission.